

REMARKS

In the Official Action, the Examiner objected to claim 15 as being a substantial duplicate of claim 1 and rejected all of the claims under consideration based on JP 2002-260910. Applicants respectfully maintain that neither the objection to claim 15 nor the prior art rejections are proper based on the explicit recitations set forth in the claims and a clear understanding of the fair teachings of the prior art.

As recited in claim 1, one aspect of the present invention provides a laminate comprising two or more magnetic metal thin plates, each magnetic metal thin plate being selected from the group consisting of an amorphous metal plate and a nano crystal magnetic plate and coated with a high molecular compound, wherein the two or more magnetic metal thin plates are partially in contact with one another by applying pressure so that the high molecular compound that is positioned between the two or more magnetic metal thin plates is pushed out, and wherein the volume resistivity defined in JIS H 0505 in a direction perpendicular to the high molecular compound surface of the magnetic metal thin plates is from $0.1 \Omega\text{cm}$ to less than $10^8 \Omega\text{cm}$.

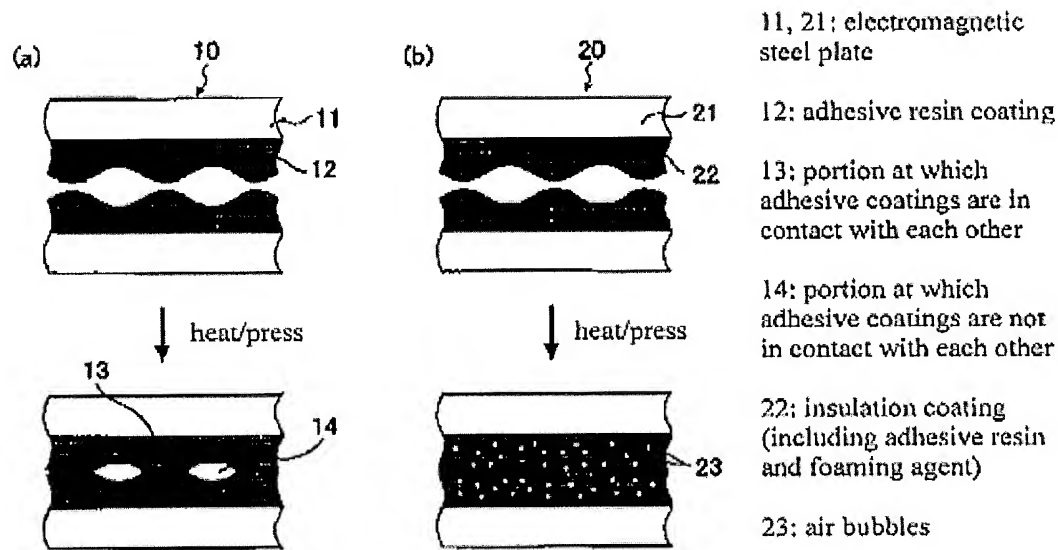
In contrast to the laminate recited in claim 1, claim 15 provides, *inter alia*, a laminate comprising two or more magnetic metal thin plates, each magnetic metal thin plate being selected from the group consisting of a nano crystal magnetic plate and a silicon steel sheet. In other words, the thin plates defined in claims 1 and 15 are different so that the claims are not substantially identical. In this regard, applicants point out that cited MPEP §706.03(k) states that claims are duplicative if "they both cover the same thing." Clearly, that is not the case here. Moreover, it will be noted that the defined metal plates were a point of argument over certain prior art that was cited during course of prosecution of the present application, such as on

pages 10-11 of the response filed on July 6, 2009. Thus, applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the objection in view of the literal distinction between the claims and the express acknowledgment in aforementioned MPEP §706.03(k) that: "Indeed, a mere difference in scope between claims has been held to be enough."

Turning to the prior art rejections, each of independent claims 1 and 15 recites that the two or more magnetic metal thin plates are partially in contact with one another by applying pressure so that the high molecular compound that is positioned between the two or more magnetic metal thin plates is pushed out. It has been previously explained that this partial contact reduces the temperature elevation exhibited by a core which was a problem in the prior art. In this respect, by applying pressure so that the high molecular compound positioned between the two or more magnetic metal thin plates is pushed out (as discussed in paragraphs [0025] and [0026] of the specification), the partial contact of the magnetic metal thin plates can be obtained. It has further been previously explained that in the absence of the high molecular compound positioned between the two or more magnetic metal thin films, the volume resistivity would be less than $0.1 \Omega\text{cm}$ whereas if the metal thin plates do not contact each other, the volume resistivity would be above $10^8 \Omega\text{cm}$. An explanation of this point is set forth in paragraph [0024] of the specification.

The cited JP '910 publication does not disclose or suggest the invention as defined in the claims of record. As discussed above, the claims recite that the two or more magnetic metal thin plates are partially in contact with one another by applying pressure so that the high molecular compound that is positioned between the two or more magnetic metal thin plates is pushed out. It is this partial contact which reduces the temperature elevation and enables the defined volume resistivity to be attained as shown in the illustrative Examples of Table 1 on page 22.

The JP '910 publication does not disclose magnetic metal thin plates that are partially in contact with one another. To the contrary, the publication clearly shows that the metal plates are not in contact. In particular, Figure 2(a) illustrates a prior art embodiment and Figure 2(b) shows the illustrative embodiment with a description of the reference numbers being provided on the right side of the figures.



As is evident from the above figures, the metal thin layers are not partially in contact with one another as recited in claims 1 and 15. Instead, to improve the adhesiveness between the metal plates, the adhesive resin used in the JP '910 publication includes a foaming agent. When heat and pressure are applied to the adhesive resin including the foaming agent, the adhesive resin expands and prevents the formation of spaces in the locations where the adhesive resin is not contact (portions indicated by 14 in Fig. 2), thereby realizing close contact of adhesive resin coatings between the metal plates.

With regard to the insulation properties of the laminate, the JP '910 publication discloses in paragraph [0023] that the laminate can avoid problems such as a decrease in insulation properties or degradation in magnetic properties during

production. In other words, the JP '910 publication teaches that the metal plates in the laminate are completely insulated from each other which is contrary to the recited partial contact. Furthermore, it would be highly likely that the discloses laminate exhibits a volume resistivity higher than the upper limit ($10^8 \Omega\text{m}$) of the volume resistivity recited in claims 1 and 15.

For all the reasons provided above, applicants respectfully submit that the claims under consideration are patentable in all regards and therefore request reconsideration and allowance of the present application.

As a final matter, applicants note that an Information Disclosure Statement was filed on October 4, 2010, and applicants requested consideration and acknowledgment of the information provided therein.

Should the Examiner have any questions concerning the present application, he is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the number provided below.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16, 1.17 and 1.21 that may be required by this paper, and to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 02-4800.

Respectfully submitted,

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